

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 01079 161547Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
SSM-03 IO-13 /078 W  
-----161552Z 064969 /43

P R 161150Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1794  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
USINT BAGHDAD  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
USMISSION USUN  
USIA WASHDC  
DIA WASHDC  
USCINCEUR

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JERUSALEM FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, PLO, SY  
SUBJECT: ARAFAT DIRECTS APPEAL TO ASAD

1. FEB 15 SYRIAN PRESS FRONT-PAGED TELEGRAM ARAFAT SENT  
PRES ASAD FROM CAIRO IN WHICH ARAFAT DECLARED HE HAD CANCELLED  
A PLANNED TRIP TO AFRICA BECAUSE "THINGS STARTED TO BECOME  
COMPLICATED IN LEBANON." ARAFAT THEN EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE  
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THAT PRES ASAD WOULD HANDLE THE SITUATION USING "HIS GREAT  
PATIENCE AND WISDOM." ARAFAT REQUESTED ASAD TO PUT AN END TO  
THE CRISIS AND APPEALED TO HIM TO POSTPONE ANY DECISION REGARDING  
A MILITARY OPERATION BY THE ADF...IN ORDER TO SAFEGUARD OUR  
FAMILIES AND CHILDREN IN THEIR CAMPS AND IN ORDER TO PRESERVE  
OUR JOINT MARCH." MESSAGE WAS SIGNED "YOUR BROTHER YASSER  
ARAFAT."

2. PLO OFFICIAL ABU MAYZAR HELD PRESS CONFERENCE IN DAMASCUS  
1330L FEB 15 IN WHICH HE STATED ARAFAT HAD TRIED TO MEET  
WITH ASAD EVENING OF FEB 14 BUT BECAUSE OF ASAD'S TRIP TO  
ROMANIA MEETING DID NOT TAKE PLACE. HE DID MEET NOON FEB 15  
WITH PRIMIN KHULAYFAWI AND THEN RETURNED TO BEIRUT TO "SUPER-  
VISE EASING OF TENSIONS." ABU MAYZAR SAID KHULAYFAWI SHOWED  
"UNDERSTANDING AND A POSITIVE ATTITUDE."

3. COMMENT: INTERMITTENT FIGHTING WHICH BROKE OUT LAST  
WEEK BETWEEN REJECTIONIST GROUPS ON ONE HAND AND PRO-SYRIAN AND  
ADF FORCES ON THE OTHER IN SUBURBAN BEIRUT PALESTINIAN CAMPS WAS  
PROBABLY NOT SOLE REASON FOR THIS MESSAGE. RECENT REPORTS  
THAT QUADRIPARTITE COMMITTEE HAS REINTERPRETED 1969 CAIRO  
ACCORDS IN MANNER VERY UNFAVORABLE TO PLO FORCES IN LEBANON  
ARE ALSO GIVEN CREDENCE BY ARAFAT'S DRAMATIC APPEAL AND APPEAR-  
ANCE IN DAMASCUS. FACT THAT SYRIAN PRESS CHOSE TO PUBLICIZE  
THIS APPEAL MAY INDICATE THAT SYRIANS WILL BE CONTENT FOR TIME  
BEING TO USE "SALAMI" TACTICS RATHER THAN ALL OUT ASSAULT TO BRING  
ABOUT COMPLIANCE. OVERALL IMPRESSION GIVEN BY PRESS IS  
ARAFAT COMING AS SUPPLICANT TO BEG MERCY FROM ASAD.  
MURPHY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PALESTINIANS, CONCILIATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 16-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977DAMASC01079  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770055-0513  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** DAMASCUS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770237/aaaabgpx.tel  
**Line Count:** 84  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 0f194bc6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3310000  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ARAFAT DIRECTS APPEAL TO ASAD  
**TAGS:** PFOR, SY, PLO, (ASAD, HAFIZ), (ARAFAT, YASSER)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/0f194bc6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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